

STEP III, 2009 Q1 EC

1. A popular question attempted by more than four fifths of the candidates, and scoring as well as any question, and most successfully obtained expressions for p and q . Quite a lot also obtained the quadratic equation and from it the sum and product of roots for s and t . However, a common error at this stage was to overlook the coefficient of the second degree term not being 1. For this reason, or otherwise, because they didn't know what to do many "fell at the last hurdle", although a good number completed the question successfully.



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